



# Indiana State Excise Police News Release

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Excise Police Issue 138 Tickets in Bloomington**

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – Indiana State Excise Police officers issued 138 summonses to 75 people in Bloomington August 25-28, 2010, the week before classes began at Indiana University. Several businesses were also cited for a variety of violations.

Most summonses were for illegal consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages. The following is a list of some of the charges:

- 61 minors were cited for illegal possession, consumption or transportation of alcoholic beverages.
- 32 minors were cited for offenses related to false IDs.
- 29 minors were cited for making a false statement of age to an alcohol business.
- 9 adults were cited for furnishing or providing alcoholic beverages to a minor.
- 7 people were arrested for a variety of other offenses, including public intoxication, possession of marijuana, reckless possession of paraphernalia, false informing, and minor in tavern.

“The week before classes begin at IU has routinely resulted in a high number of arrests and citations for alcohol-related offenses,” Officer Travis Thickstun said. “In the last few years, individual excise officers have written more tickets during Welcome Week than during IU’s Little 500.”

During Welcome Week, excise police focused their enforcement efforts in areas with past instances of high numbers of arrests or complaints from the public, including bars, liquor stores and grocery stores. Excise officers also patrolled throughout the city, with particular emphasis on the apartment complexes and neighborhoods near campus.

Indiana State Excise Police officers are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission. While excise officers are empowered to enforce any state law, they primarily focus on alcohol, tobacco and related violations.

Additional funding for Welcome Week enforcement was provided by a grant from Monroe County CARES, which is a local coordinating council of the Governor’s Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana. Monroe County CARES coordinates, supports, and promotes local efforts to prevent and reduce harmful involvement with alcohol and other drugs.